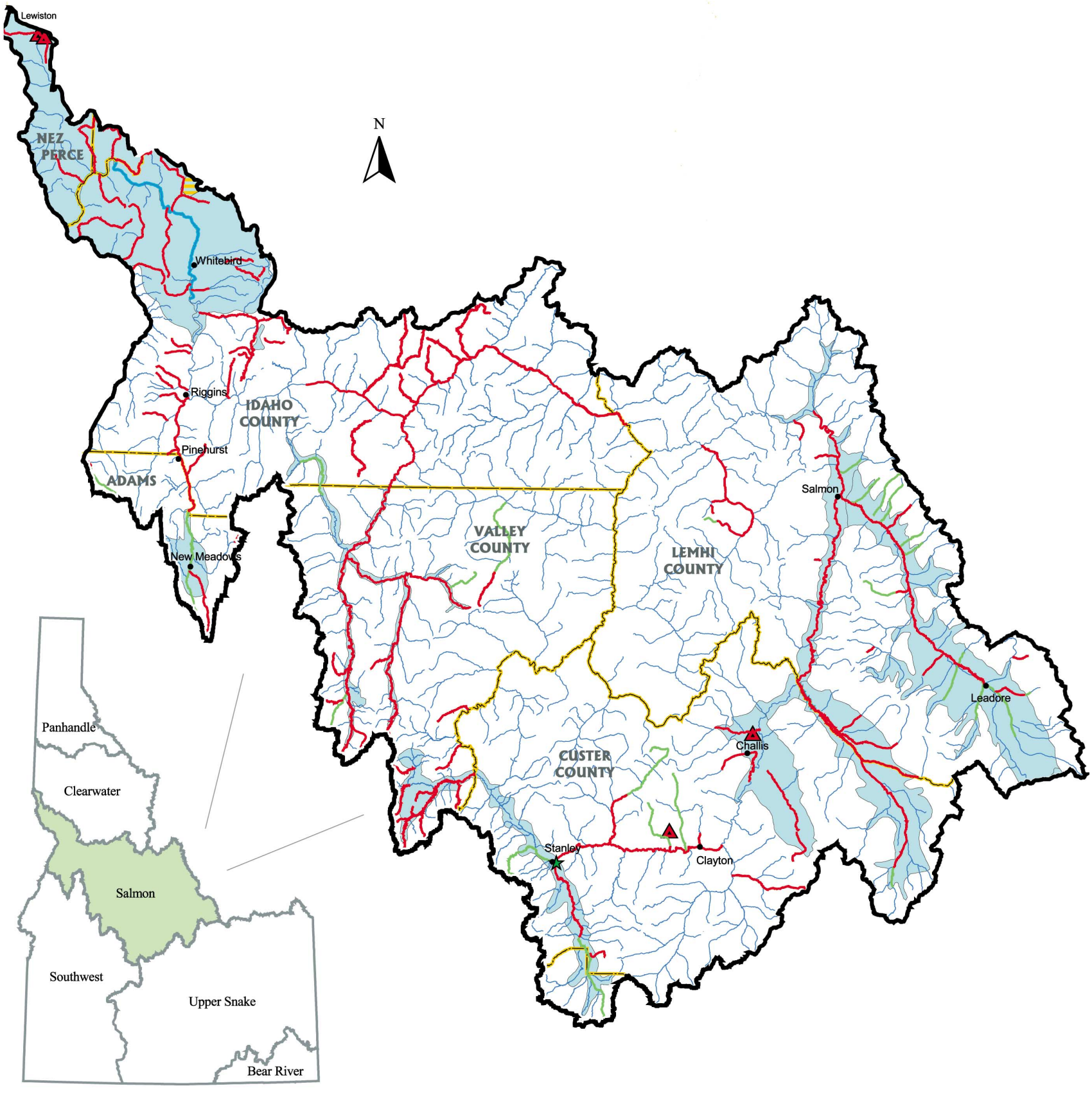
Salmon Basin



Map Legend

Group 1 Sites

- Inorganic Compounds (Arsenic, Fluroide)
  Exceeds Groundwater Quality or Health Standard
- Nitrate exceeding drinking water standard (10 mg/l)

- Streams
- Streams Determined to Meet Water Quality Standards
- Surface Water Quality Impaired Streams-1998
- Minimum Stream Flows

Nitrate Priority Areas

- more than 25 % of samples exceed 5 mg/l

- Aquifers
- Counties

0 25 50 Kilometers

0 25 50 Miles

Salmon

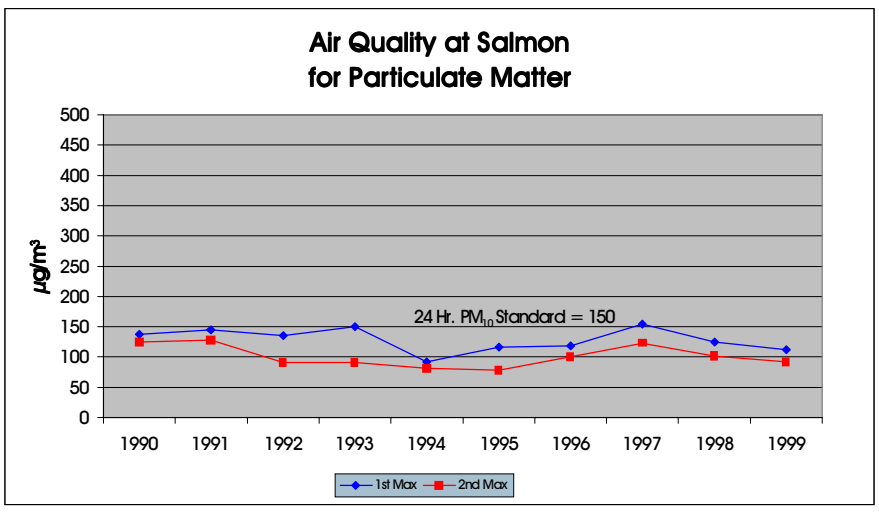
The Salmon Basin is named for the wild fish and wild river that dominate the area. The headwaters of the Salmon River drain the eastern portion of the Sawtooth Mountain Range. Most of the basin is delineated by forks of the main Salmon River. The Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness and other large tracts of roadless wilderness areas comprise much of this region. The rugged mountainous terrain and the rivers and tributaries provide spawning habitat for anadromous salmon. Of all the Idaho regions, the Salmon region incurred the most damage from the wild fires during the summer of 2000.

Air Quality

The Salmon Air Quality Control Region includes Idaho's largest wilderness area. The majority of the land in this region is managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Particulate matter from wild fires and prescribed burning dominate air quality concerns. The particulate matter health-based standards were exceeded at several monitoring sites in the city of Salmon during the summer wildfires of 2000. Previous particulate matter monitoring in the airshed has indicated some air quality degradation due to woodstove and fireplace usage. The air quality graph below shows the highest and second highest maximum daily readings of particulate matter from annual monitoring.

Salmon Air Quality Control Region
Pollutants of Concern

- Particulate Matter
- Hazardous Air Pollutants/Toxic Air Pollutants



Ground Water

The Salmon Basin contains a small portion of a Nitrate Priority Area in the northwest part of the basin. Also, identified are four Nitrate Group 1 Sites and one organic compound site. (See the "Salmon Basin" map for locations. See "Definition of Impacted Ground Water Areas and Sites" on page 4 for explanation of these sites.)

Ground Water Pollutants of Concern
Salmon Basin

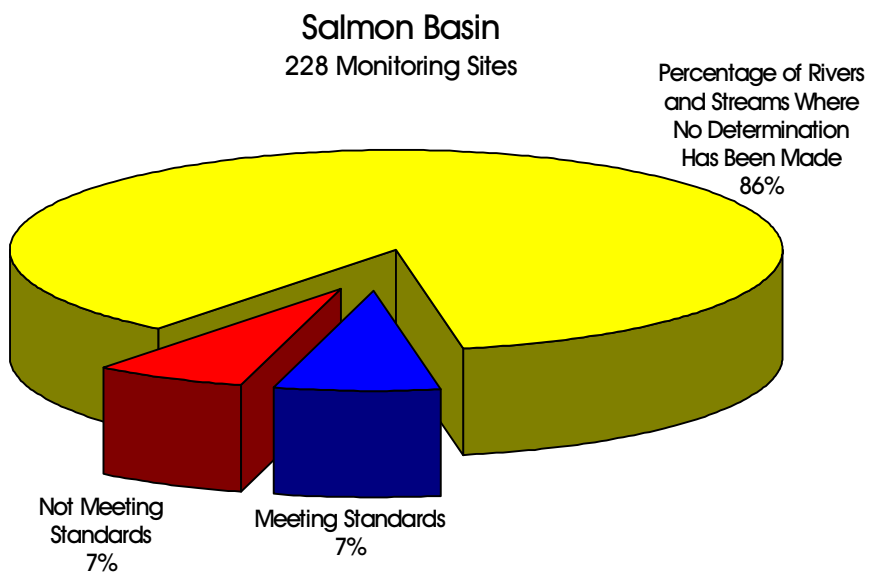
- Organics
  - Pesticides
- Nitrates

Surface Water

In the Salmon Basin, the primary surface water pollutant of concern is sediment. Drainages such as Yankee Fork, Panther Creek, and Blackbird Creek are impacted by metals contamination and streambank modification. The Lemhi River and its tributaries are impacted by sediment, nutrients, flow alteration, and temperature. There are 17,879 miles of rivers and streams in the basin. Approximately 2,400 miles of surface water have been assessed for water quality; 1,179 miles do not meet Idaho water quality standards. The pie chart below shows the percentage of streams meeting water quality standards, the percentage of those not meeting the standards, and the percentage of streams where no specific determination has been made. The Salmon Basin contains the largest amount of habitat for anadromous fish including the Chinook and Sockeye salmon. (See the "Salmon Habitat and Land Designation" map below.)

Surface Water Pollutants of Concern
Salmon Basin

- Sediments
- Nutrients
- Temperature



Salmon Habitat and Land Designation
in the Salmon Basin